



S/N 09/045,018

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Charles F. Chesney et al.

Examiner: N. Natnithithadha

Serial No.: 09/045,018

Group Art Unit: 3736

Filed: March 20, 1998

Docket: 120.010US1

Title: SENSOR AND METHOD FOR SENSING ARTERIAL PULSE PRESSURE

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

JUN 06 1999

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3702

In response to the Office Action mailed March 18, 1999, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3-6, 8, 11, 12, and 15-20 as follows (all claims are reprinted here for the convenience of the Examiner):

1. A body-sound sensor comprising:
a housing (110);
a skin-contact diaphragm (120) attached across a recess or opening in the housing,
a piezoelectric device (170) having a first portion mounted in a fixed relationship to the housing and a second portion displacementally coupled to the diaphragm; and
a solid-state amplifier (190) having a signal input coupled to the device, wherein the device and amplifier together have a frequency response at least including a range from below approximately 1 hertz to above approximately 250 hertz.

2. The sensor according to claim 1, wherein the housing and the skin-contact diaphragm are stainless steel.

3. [Amended once] The sensor according to claim 2, wherein the diaphragm has a skin-contact surface with a skin-contact dimension of between approximately 0.4 inch and 0.6 inch, and wherein the sensor is used to acquire a signal from the radial artery.

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